Prosecution of Scamsters

932. SHRI JAGESH DESAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) how many of the scamsters have so far been prosecuted and are facing trials in the courts, together with details thereof;

(b) what is the amount involved in the scam cases pending in the courts and steps being taken by Government to attach the properties of the persons involved:

(c) whether their properties are attached, if so, indicate the value of the same; and

(d) how much amount Government hope to recover out of the total amount involved in the scam ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY) : (a) Central Bureau of Investigation have reported that 74 persons involved have been prosecuted and are facing trial in the special Court, Bombay and in the court of Sessions Judge, Delhi.

(b) to (d) In terms of the provisions contained in the Special Court (Trial of Offences relating to the Transactions in Securities) Act, 1992, the Custodian has attached assets of notified persons valued at about Rs. 2910 crores (Provisional) as on 30th November, 1994. The actual amount which would be ultimately recovered would be known only after the claims are decided by the Special Court.

Consumer's Fora

933. SHRI JAGESH DEKAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision has been taken by Government to consult the consumer's fora before framing the next budget;

(b) if so, name the fora to be consulted for the purpose; and

(c) the areas covered by these fora ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c) The Finance Minister had already held a pre-budget meeting with Consumer's Fora on 8-12-94. The representatives of Fora invited to this meeting were from Common Cause, (New Delhi), VOICE (New Delhi). Federation of Consumer Organisation (Madras), Consumer Education and Research Centre (Ahmedabad), Consumer Unity and Trust Society (Jaipur), Indian Institute of Consumer Studies (Bangalore), Federation of Consumer Associations (Calcutta), and Consumer Guidance Society of Jamshedpur.

Fifth Pay Commission

934. SHRI JAGESH DESAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Central Fifth Pay Commission has been fully constituted;

(b) whether the demand of the employees for inclusion of their represedtatives as members of the Commission has been met by Goverrment;

(c) If so, by when they are likely to be appointed as Members of the commission; and

(d) whether the Commission has started taking oral evidence; if not, by when it is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATEIR IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASEKARA MURTMY): (a) to (c) The Central Fifth Pay Commission has been constituted and there is no proposal at present to appoint any more Members in the Pay Commission.

(d) The Commission has not yet started taking formal oral evidence but will do so in due eourse.

Staff in Bhuj Customs Division

935. SMT. ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) What is the category-wise number of staff on duty in Bhuj Customs Division at present;

(b) What was the category-wise staff strength sanctioned by Government for Bhuj Customs Division;

(c) Whether it is a fact that Kutch border in Gujarat has become the safe place for the smugglers and traitors, and if so, what are the reasons for not appointing sanctioned staff by Government; and

(d) by when Government would appoint sanctioned staff in the above division ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) The category-wise number of staff sanctioned and working in Bhuj Customs Division is as under :—

Cetegory	Sanctioned Strength	Working strength
Group 'A' . .	1	1
Group 'B' . .	8	3
Group 'C' & 'D' .	245	197

(c) and (d) After liberalisation of channels for official imports of gold and silver, activities of smugglers in land and sea borders, including Kutch border, have generally declined The working staff strength is keeping the situation under control.

गुजरात में जब्त किये गये नशीले पदार्थ

936. **श्रीमती आनन्दीबेन जेठाभाई पटेल** : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) चालू वर्ष के दौरान विभिन्न प्राधिकारियों द्वारा गुजरात में जब्त किए गए नशीले पदार्थों का ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ख) इस अवधि के दौरान राज्य में कितने व्यक्तियों को गिरफ्तार किया गया और उनके खिलाफ कितने मुकदमे चलाए गए , और

(ग) नशीले पदार्थों की तस्करी को रोकने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम० वी० चन्द्रशेखर मूर्ति) : (क) उपलब्ध सूचना के अनुसार, चालू वर्ष 1994 (नवम्बर तक) के दौरान गुजरात में विभिन्न प्रवर्तन एजेंसियों के द्वारा जब्त